

At a regular meeting of the City Commission held Monday, February 8, 2016 at 7:00 p.m., in the City Commission Room the following action was taken:

Moved by Commissioner Gillis and supported by Commissioner Kulick to approve the following resolution in opposition of House Bill 5232 and Senate Bill 720 regarding proposed changes to Historic Preservation laws:

WHEREAS, historic preservation is declared to be a "public purpose" under 154.086 of the City of Mt. Pleasant City Code, which further seeks to "safeguard the heritage of the city by preserving areas in the city which reflect elements of its cultural, social, spiritual, economic, political, engineering, or architectural history or its archeology";

WHEREAS, Public Act 179 of 1970, the Michigan Local Historic Districts Act (hereinafter, "the Act"), enables local units of government to establish historic districts; and

WHEREAS, the positive benefits of historic districts on the economic development, quality of life, and general welfare of the people of the City of Mt. Pleasant are well established; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mt. Pleasant contains 2 historic districts, established since 2005 and under a democratic process which is initiated by citizen petition, and includes, in accordance with section 154.086 City of Mt. Pleasant Code, substantial outreach to members of the affected areas, statutory public hearings, and final consideration and enactment by the City Commission; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 5232 of 2016, and the identical legislation Senate Bill 0720 of 2016, introduced to the legislature of the State of Michigan on January 26, 2016, propose to amend the Act to place additional and significant restrictions on the ability of a local unit of government to designate and regulate historic districts; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 5232 of 2016, and the identical legislation Senate Bill 0720 of 2016, would additionally amend the Act such that existing historic districts will expire unless "renewed" every ten years; and

WHEREAS, a report from the House Fiscal Agency suggests that the legislation as written would "increase the costs of local units of government attempting to set up new or modify existing historic districts";

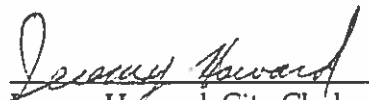
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mt. Pleasant City Commission hereby urges the House Committee on Local Government, the Senate Committee on Local Government, and the entire state legislature to reject House Bill 5232 of 2016, and Senate Bill 0720 of 2016, as written,

AND BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be transmitted to the House Committee on Local Government, the Senate Committee on Local Government, Senator Emmons, Representative Cotter and the Governor of the State of Michigan.

Motion unanimously adopted.

I, Jeremy Howard, Clerk for the City of Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of action taken by the City Commission at a regular meeting held February 8, 2016.

Dated: February 11, 2016


Jeremy Howard, City Clerk